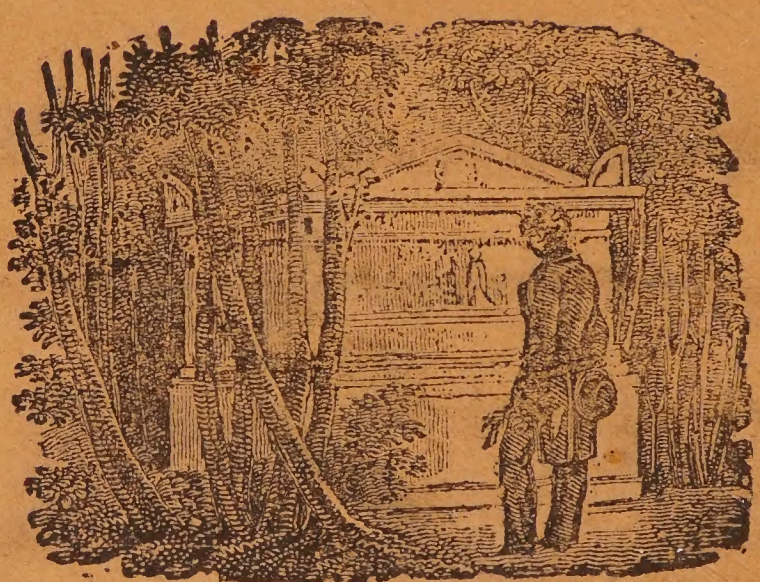

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Mr. JOHN STEPHENS,

the Celebrated CORN DOCTOR

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teſtified by an irreſiſtible fit of laughter, but was ſoon ſucceeded by a paroxyſm of indignation, producing a general uproar.

The hermit, now detected for the firſt time, began to tremble. Summary juſtice growing clamorous, and ſo near at hand, a back window luckily preſented the only outlet whereby to eſcape the rage of the multitude, animated by the ſtinging reproaches of a furious female, and the more mortifying reflection of their having been made ſuch egregious dupes.

Jump then was the order of the moment; and jump he did, and ſo ſuddenly, that he left in the lurch both ſeekers and purſuers. Report ſays, that a gang of ſacrilegious robbers eaſed him in his flight of an accumulated earthly burden of forty pounds, while many true believers aſſert, that carrying with him nothing but the power of working miracles, he was promoted to that famous ſtation of Iriſh pilgrims, Lough Derg, or St. Patrick's Purgatory; thus humbly joining his ſhare of reputation, to that of thoſe celebrated virtues of their tutelary ſaint. X. Y. Z.

Authentic Particulars of the Celebrated MR. JOHN STEPHENS, *Corn-Doctor, No.* 98, *Fetter-lane, Holborn.*

THIS extraordinary man, who, it may figuratively be ſaid, gives *feet to the lame*, was born at Chipſtable in Somerſetſhire, in the year 1732, of honeſt induſtrious parents. His relations are ſtill reſidents at Chipſtable, and frequently receive mementos of Mr. Stephens's liberality and affection. In his youth he lived with a ſurgeon, which probably gave riſe to his ſkill in cutting corns, though he himſelf declares "it is a gift from God." Be this as it may, it muſt be candidly acknowledged that no one has ever yet performed the radical cure of theſe tormenting excreſcences with ſuch

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perfect eaſe and facility as the ſubject of this ſketch. He has cured infants from *one* year old and upwards. Some may think it incredible that little children ſhould have corns; we, however, are aſſured by Mr. Stephens that they are very ſubject to them, but that they are ſofter and eaſier eradicated: we are conſequently inclined to think that theſe painful complaints are not always occaſioned by tight ſhoes, as is generally ſuppoſed, but that they are in ſome degree hereditary, eſpecially as they are moſt painful previous to rainy weather, which is philoſophically accounted for by the celebrated Lord Bacon. As a farther proof that corns do not originate from tight ſhoes, Mr. Stephens relates a circumſtance of his having cured a Scotch highlander, who was afflicted with a moſt dreadful one, though he never wore ſhoes or ſtockings in his life; and it is well known, that the poor claſs of Iriſh, who are always running about bare-foot, are very much addicted to corns.

Mr. Stephens, although now 75 years of age, ſtill purſues his buſineſs with great attention, and is well known to the nobility and moſt of the principal phyſicians. He has attended the late duke of Richmond, and ſtill attends the duke of Clarence, &c. He always pays his viſits in a hackney coach, which coſts him above a guinea per week. A few years ago he lived in Plough-court, Fetter-lane, oppoſite to his preſent reſidence, which probably he left on account of the inconvenience of walking from thence to his coach.

He is a very ſtrong athletic man, and notwithſtanding his age, walks upright, and is remarkable for conſtantly wearing the ſame dreſs, viz. a blue coat with velvet collar, a ſcarlet embroidered waiſtcoat, black ſmall-clothes, white ſtockings, and a white hat. He has always a noſegay in his boſom, conſiſting of a few ſelect elegant flowers in ſeaſon, which he generally procures from the gardens of ſome of the nobility he viſits. In his apartment, he has two admirable

mirable paintings of himſelf, particularly a miniature one, drawn when he was a young man.

His operation in cutting corns is entirely performed by inſtruments; having never uſed any liquid, as has been erroneouſly ſtated. His manner of cutting is, to uſe his own words, "peculiar to himſelf," and gives not the leaſt pain.

ABOLITION *of the* SLAVE-TRADE; *with a Sketch of the Life of* IGNATIUS SANCHO, *the ingenious African, and Father of Mr.* W. SANCHO, *the Bookſeller, Mews Gate.*

IT is worthy of obſervation, that the unequivocal ſymptoms of diſapprobation of the Slave-Trade appeared within a ſhort time, in almoſt every part of the world. The Congreſs of 1774 declared firſt juridically againſt it. The Convention of 1787 required the Congreſs ſhould tax the importation of ſlaves. The National Aſſembly of France in 1789 paſſed a vote of cenſure on the trade; and the Engliſh miniſter, with a conſiderable body of ſupporters, openly declared their enmity to the trade; and it has at laſt received its final termination by the patriotic and unwearied labours of Mr. Wilberforce, who has now the ſatisfaction of ſeeing his praiſe-worthy meaſures crowned by the royal aſſent.

We are induced, under this article, to record a worthy inſtance of the propriety of this meaſure, and an example to ourſelves, in the life of an ingenious African, well known a few years ago to the literate part of the community in London—we mean Mr. Ignatius Sancho, a man who really thought and ſpoke on every ſubject, whether political, philoſophical, or religious, without any narrow prejudice, and whoſe uncommon character for liberality of ſentiment on all topics was remarked by all his acquaintance, and often mentioned by Mr. Garrick, Dr. Johnſon, and others.

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His letters have been publiſhed, one of which, addreſſed to Sterne on the depreſſed ſtate of perſonal ſlavery in the colonies, can never be too often read by the admirers of ſympathetic writing. The writer of this article has the ſatisfaction to obſerve, that this uncommon character, after conſiderable reading, and much reflection taken up in a ſtate ſervitude, died a determined friend to genuine chriſtianity, of in its true ſpirit and practice. A portrait of him, engraved by the celebrated Bartolozzi, is prefixed to his letters, which are in two vols. 8vo. His ſon, Mr. W. Sancho, was brought up to the profeſſion of a bookſeller by Mr. Edward Jeffery, of Pall-Mall, and at preſent is the worthy ſucceſſor of Mr. Henry Paine at the Mews Gate in Caſtle-ſtreet. He is alſo, we believe, librarian to Sir Joſeph Banks, and collects literary curioſities with the moſt unwearied diligence.

Memoirs of Mr. JOHN SEWELL, *the late remarkable Bookſeller in Cornhill.*

Extracted from the European Magazine.

MR. JOHN SEWELL was born at Oakham in Rutlandſhire; we preſume, in 1735; as we find he was baptized on July the 27th of that year. Of his family we know no particulars; but learn that he came to London in 1752, and became the apprentice of Mr. James Brotherton, who afterwards received him as a partner; and that connexion continued till 1775, when Mr. Brotherton died, and left Mr. Sewell the whole of his property, with the exception only of a legacy of 30l. to an elderly lady.

Mr. Brotherton was an eccentric ſort of man; and Mr. Sewell certainly inherited, with his ſhop and buſineſs, ſome of his harmleſs whimſicality. When, in 1779, he was choſen conſtable for the ward of Cornhill, it was expected

that